

if it were hundreds of miles off,
 seeing that we
 can't get away from it ? "
 Captain Gould's conclusion was
 unfortunately
 only too reasonable. Everything pointed
 to the
 probability of the *Flag* having steered
 for the
 Pacific, far, very far, from New
 Switzerland's
 waters. And yet what John Block was
 thinking,
 others were thinking too. It seemed
 as if the
 bird from Burning Rock had brought
 hope with it.
 When the bird recovered from its
 exhauscion,
 which it speedily did, it was neither
 timid nor
 wild. It was soon walking about the
 beach,
 feeding on the berries of the kelp or on
 fish, which
 it was very clever in catching, and it
 showed
 no desire to fly away.

Sometimes it would fly along the
 promontory
 and settle on the top of the cliff,
 uttering little
 cries.

" Ah, ha!" the boatswain used to
 say then.
 " He is asking us up ! If only he could
 give me
 the loan of his wings I would willingly
 undertake
 to fly up there, and look over the
 other side.
 Very likely that side of the coast isn't
 any better
 than this one, but at any rate we
 should
 know/⁵

Know.? Did they not know already,
since
Fritz had seen nothing but the same
arid rocks
and the same inaccessible heights
beyond the
bluff?